

**BEFORE THE IOWA BOARD OF PHARMACY**

<p>RE: Nonresident Pharmacy License and Controlled Substances Act Registration of</p> <p><b>WELLS PHARMACY NETWORK LLC</b> License No. 3385 Registration No. 1108216 Respondent</p>	<p>CASE NO. 2019-0035</p> <p><b>NOTICE OF HEARING AND STATEMENT OF CHARGES</b></p>
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**COMES NOW** the Iowa Board of Pharmacy ("Board") and files this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges against Wells Pharmacy Network LLC ("Respondent"), 1210 SW 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Ocala FL 34474, pursuant to Iowa Code sections 17A.12(2), 17A.18(3), and 272C.3(1)"e", and 657 IAC 35.6 and 35.7.

**A. TIME, PLACE, AND NATURE OF HEARING**

Hearing. A disciplinary contested case hearing shall be held on November 5, 2019, before the Board. The hearing shall begin at 1:00 p.m. and shall be located in the Board conference room located at the Iowa Board of Pharmacy Office, 400 SW 8<sup>th</sup> St, Ste E, Des Moines IA 50309.

Answer. Within twenty (20) days of the date you are served this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges, you may file an Answer pursuant to 657 IAC 35.16. The Answer should specifically admit, deny, or otherwise answer all allegations contained in sections C and D of this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges.

Filing of Pleadings. Pleadings shall be filed with the Board either by e-mail, if done in compliance with 657 IAC 35.17(2), to [Amanda.Woltz@iowa.gov](mailto:Amanda.Woltz@iowa.gov), or by mail/delivery to the following address: Iowa Board of Pharmacy, 400 SW 8<sup>th</sup> St, Ste E, Des Moines IA 50309.

Presiding Officer. The Board shall serve as presiding officer, but the Board may request an Administrative Law Judge from the Department of Inspections and Appeals make initial rulings on prehearing matters, and be present to assist and advise the Board at hearing.

Hearing Procedures. The procedural rules governing the conduct of the contested case hearing, including prehearing matters, are found at 657 IAC chapter 35. At the hearing, you may appear personally or be represented by counsel at your own expense. You will be allowed the opportunity to respond to the charges against you, to produce evidence on your behalf on issues of material fact, cross-examine witnesses present at the hearing, and examine and respond to any documents introduced at the hearing. The hearing may be open to the public or closed to the public at your discretion, pursuant to Iowa Code section 272C.6(1) and 657 IAC 35.25(10).

Prosecution. The Office of Attorney General of Iowa is responsible for representing the public interest (the State) in this proceeding. Counsel for the State in this matter is Assistant Attorney General Laura Steffensmeier. Ms. Steffensmeier can be reached by phone at (515) 281-6690. Copies of pleadings should be provided to counsel for the State either by email to [Laura.Steffensmeier@ag.iowa.gov](mailto:Laura.Steffensmeier@ag.iowa.gov), or by mail/delivery to the following address:

Laura Steffensmeier  
Assistant Attorney General  
Hoover State Office Building—2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
1305 E Walnut St  
Des Moines IA 50319

Communications. You may not contact individual Board members in any manner, including by phone, letter, or e-mail, regarding this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges. Board members may only receive information about the case when all parties have notice and the opportunity to participate, such as at the hearing or in pleadings you file and serve upon all parties in the case.

## **B. LEGAL AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION**

Jurisdiction. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A, 155A, and 272C (2019).

Legal Authority. If any of the allegations against you are founded, the Board has authority to take disciplinary action against you under Iowa Code chapters 155A, and 272C, and 657 IAC chapter 36.

Default. If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Board may enter a default decision or proceed with the hearing and render a decision in your absence, in accordance with Iowa Code section 17A.12(3) and 657 IAC 35.27.

## **C. STATEMENT OF CHARGES**

### **COUNT I**

#### **VIOLATION OF A BOARD ORDER**

Respondent is charged with violation of a Board order, and may be disciplined pursuant to Iowa Code section 155A.13A(5)(d) and 657 IAC 19.11(5) and 36.6(9).

### **COUNT II**

#### **COMPOUNDING ESSENTIALLY COPIES OF APPROVED DRUGS**

Respondent is charged with compounding essentially copies of approved drugs in violation of the requirements of 657 IAC 20.12, and may be disciplined pursuant to Iowa Code section 155A.13A(5)(d) and 657 IAC 19.11(5) and 36.6(21).

#### **D. FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

1. Respondent's nonresident pharmacy license number 3385 is currently active through December 31, 2019. Respondent's Controlled Substances Act registration number 1108216 is currently active through December 31, 2019.
2. On March 14, 2018, Respondent was disciplined by the Board. As part of the agreed resolution, Respondent agreed to comply with 657 IAC 20.12 regarding compounding copies of an approved drug.
3. On February 28, 2019, Respondent was inspected by Board compliance officers. The inspection revealed that Respondent continued to ship products into Iowa that did not comply with 657 IAC 20.12 after being previously disciplined for this issue.

#### **E. SETTLEMENT**

This matter may be resolved by settlement agreement. The procedural rules governing the Board's settlement process are found at 657 IAC 35.24. To cancel a scheduled hearing, an executed settlement agreement must be received by the Board at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled hearing. If you are interested in pursuing settlement in this matter, please contact the Assistant Attorney General identified above.

#### **F. FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

On September 10, 2019, the Iowa Board of Pharmacy found probable cause to file this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges.



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Chairperson  
Iowa Board of Pharmacy

PLEASE NOTE: If you require the assistance of auxiliary aids or services to participate in this matter because of a disability, immediately call 515-281-5944. (If you are hearing impaired, call Relay Iowa TTY at 1-800-735-2942).